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Parent Meeting: The Bridge Program

Parents, students, staff, and a representative from the Admissions department at Missouri State gathered in the Plaster Student Union Tuesday, January 25th for an overview of the Bridge program.

The Bridge Program is for Upward Bound seniors who have graduated and are planning to attend college. Upward Bound pays for up to six credit hours at Missouri State during the summer semester, as well as room, board, parking, and any textbooks the student may need.

Emily Trammel was available during the meeting to answer questions about admissions to Missouri State. She also handed out materials to help students and parents keep track of all the information.

While this information is especially important for seniors getting ready to graduate, it is also useful for any students or parents who would like to be more informed. For those who were unable to attend, here is some information about the Bridge Program:

Application Deadline: May 20

We strongly encourage students to apply early, especially if they plan to attend Missouri State in the fall. Scholarship deadlines are quickly approaching!

Bridge Dates: June 13 to August 3

If you are attending a different school in the fall, then easily transferable credits are recommended.

Housing: The student may move into the assigned room or apartment the day preceding the first day of classes for the summer session contracted for. The student must vacate his/her room or apartment either within 24 hours after his/her last examination for that session or within 12 hours after the last final is given during that session, whichever is earlier.

There are no requirements for Bridge except the senior must graduate high school, apply and be accepted to Missouri State for the summer semester, and fill out the FAFSA for the previous school year. If you have any other questions about the Bridge program, please contact the Upward Bound office.
Recently, SPS had several snow days due to rather persistent snowfall in our area. MSU had three snow days as well (Note: When you’re in college, don’t expect many snow days. Depending on which state you’re in, classes may be cancelled for 1 inch (if snow if rare and very exciting) or it may not be cancelled until there are 16 inches (if snow’s very common)! MSU is an example of a commuter campus—although several students live on campus, many more live off campus and if they can’t walk or bike to class, they have to drive (and several come from surrounding towns). When MSU cancels classes, it is with the safety of these drivers in mind. However, sometimes when it is really, really cold outside, classes may be cancelled at a college so that students don’t have to wait in the dangerous cold for a shuttle or bus ride.

One thing to remember about a snow day when you’re in college: Just because class is cancelled one day, does not mean that a scheduled test or project deadline has been pushed back. You should never assume that your teacher will move a test back just because a previous class was cancelled. College instructors want to cover a number of topics with their students before the semester is over. Many stray from their syllabi as rarely as possible. As a rule of thumb, always assume a test will take place as scheduled, unless you’re told otherwise. This makes it a rare treat when you really do get an extra day or two to study.

College students sometimes make the mistake of unproductively using a snow day. Snow days can be big advantage days to a student! Although you will want to dedicate some of your time to sleeping in and playing in the snow, make sure to set some time aside to study or catch up on a project. That way, when the next due date comes, you’ll already be prepared and less stressed!

### After School Meetings

The first After School Meeting in January was Tuesday, the 4th. Attendance was low because this was the second day back after winter break. Students at this meeting brainstormed ideas for a Student Led Meeting coming up in March.

The second After School Meeting on January 25th was about the Bridge Program, motivation, and the Student Led Workshop.

Students at each of the three schools agreed that it would be fun to take a tour of each school for the March Destined for College Meeting. To plan this event, students sat in a circle and wrote several ideas on separate pieces of paper. After coming up with an idea, each student would slam the piece of paper in front of the next student. This created a rotation of ideas in which each student could read, revise, and be inspired by other student’s ideas.

This activity was scheduled to take place on March 19th during the Destined for College Meeting. However, due to difficulty making arrangements, students will now hold their workshops on the Missouri State campus on that day.

### Senior Trip Requirements

*As stated in the Student Handbook.*

- Submit all grade checks no later than the required due date.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.50 or greater.
- Miss no more than one (1) Destined for College meeting with no school-related absence and three (3) Destined for College meetings with school-related absences.
- Attend all monthly scheduled tutoring appointments and/or scheduled tutoring appointments and after-school meetings.
- Fill out a college admissions application to the college of his/her choice (no later than January 31) – UB must receive a copy of the application.
- Fill out a FAFSA (no later than February 15) – UB must receive a copy of the completed FAFSA.
- Fill out at least one scholarship application – UB must receive a copy of the completed application.

Please talk to us if you are you concerned about eligibility. We are willing to help you meet these requirements in alternative ways.
**JANUARY D4C**

Students and parents were invited to the Missouri State campus Saturday, January 22nd for the Destined for College Meeting. At this meeting, students and parents were introduced to the new 2010-2011 Student Handbook. After this discussion, the students embarked on a tour of the campus.

The afternoon section consisted of workshops for each grade level and a White Elephant Gift Exchange. Freshmen attended a workshop on test-taking strategies. Sophomores and Juniors learned about teen issues such as budgeting.

The seniors met separately to discuss college plans and vote on a location for the senior trip. They decided to go to San Francisco or Minneapolis.

The senior trip will take place May 23 through 26. Seniors were given the list of requirements to attend. Please contact Upward Bound if you have any questions about this trip. Planning is currently in progress and more information will be available soon!

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**FEBRUARY AND MARCH CALENDAR**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/26</td>
<td>February D4C Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/7-11</td>
<td>MSU Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15</td>
<td>ASM for Central, Hillcrest, Parkview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/19</td>
<td>Destined for College Meeting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/21</td>
<td>President’s Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/21-25</td>
<td>SPS Spring Break</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/29</td>
<td>ASM for Central, Hillcrest, Parkview</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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**HAPPY BIRTHDAY!**

- 2/2 Mikayela’s Birthday!
- 2/7 Aubrey’s Birthday!
- 2/17 Winter’s Birthday!
- 3/9 Abigail’s Birthday!
- 3/9 Kirstyn’s Birthday!
- 3/12 Kaitlynn’s Birthday!
- 3/26 Henry’s Birthday!
- 3/29 Courtney’s Birthday!
Jordan Barker

Living in the dorms can be a very good experience as long as you’re open to cooperating with others and making it fun! It’s definitely a very different living environment than you will be used to. Below I have listed some things that you will want to have living in the dorms.

1. Microwave
2. Mini-fridge
3. Earplugs
4. A very loud alarm clock
5. Fan
6. Headphones
7. Lots of quarters for laundry
8. Shower caddie
9. Lysol
10. Febreze
11. Shower Shoes
12. Sweatpants
13. The warmest clothes you have
14. Waterproof backpack
15. Lamp

April Stublefield

The number one thing that keeps students from dropping out of school is a sense of connection or belonging. There are a lot of ways to meet people in college, from sitting next to them in class to sharing a room. Here are some ideas for finding your post-secondary family.

- Dorm Floor “families.” (Ex: Blair Floor Six Girls!)
- Clubs (Future Scientists of America)
- Fraternities and Sororities
- Hang out with fellow student workers and classmates outside of class, especially those in your major or minor.

They can help you with your homework!

- Professional, Intramural, or “just for fun” sports
- Volunteer and community service. Pick one organization and focus on building relationships throughout college.

- Surrounding churches, student centers, college ministries, neighborhood associations, and discussion groups.

- University events, concerts, plays, speakers, workshops, sports, etc.